

VZCZCXRO1387
RR RUEHCN RUEHGH RUEHVC
DE RUEHBJ #0689/01 0760918
ZNR UUUUU ZZH
R 170918Z MAR 09
FM AMEMBASSY BEIJING
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC 2923
INFO RUEHOO/CHINA POSTS COLLECTIVE
RHMFIUU/CDR USPACOM HONOLULU HI

UNCLAS SECTION 01 OF 02 BEIJING 000689

DEPARTMENT FOR INR/R/MR, EAP/CM, EAP/PA, EAP/PD, C
HQ PACOM FOR PUBLIC DIPLOMACY ADVISOR (J007)
SIPDIS

E.O. 12958: N/A
TAGS: [OPRC](#) [KMDR](#) [CH](#)

SUBJECT: MEDIA REACTION: TIBET, SOUTH CHINA SEA DISPUTES, U.S.-CHINA
RELATIONS, U.S.-JAPAN-CHINA RELATIONS

Editorial Quotes

11. TIBET

"Misrepresenting Tibet a disingenuous strategy"

The official English-language newspaper China Daily (03/17): "More and more young Chinese people have paid attention to the vast and sacred land of Tibet. Unblocked access to the Internet, television and newspaper coverage about the autonomous region has helped these open minded young people see that the West has long played an important force behind the Dalai Lama clique's activities. [Later in the article] By the end of February 2008, China had surpassed the U.S. and become the world's largest internet user. Thus, any talks about the Tibet issue should take their [Chinese netizens] opinions into full consideration. It is expected that any Western succor for the Dalai Lama will not only encounter opposition from the Chinese government, but will also run into resistance from the country's public opinion. Western strategists should acknowledge China's peaceful rise as a world power as irresistible and adapt to this geopolitical trend."

12. SOUTH CHINA SEA DISPUTE

"U.S. should stop their spying activities around China"

Elite Reference (Qingnian Cankao), a newspaper affiliated to the official Communist Youth League China Youth Daily (03/17): "American military ships have come into the waters near Hainan Island, entered China's EEZ and closely approached China's mainland. Obviously, they had a military intention. The U.S. never stopped their spying activities against China. The South China dispute shows that the U.S. has not changed its stance on China in spite of the financial crisis or the economic cooperation and growth between the two countries. China should have a sober awareness of that fact. Of \$2.3 trillion foreign exchange assets that China is holding, about \$1.7 trillion are U.S.-dollar assets. China has played an important and supportive role for the U.S. economy and national strength. Between the U.S. and China, the U.S. military has done little concerning military, weapons and technological cooperation, in either quantity or quality, at a strategic level or an overall level. It is always what the U.S. asks from China, not on the contrary, what China asks from the U.S. Without China's strategic assistance, the U.S.' leading influence in the Asia-Pacific or even global affairs would be greatly reduced."

13. U.S.-CHINA RELATIONS

"Is U.S. credit worth trusting?"

The China Radio International sponsored newspaper World News Journal (Shijie Xinwenbao)(03/17): "Premier Wen Jiabao mentioned his apprehension concerning the falling price of American debts. This is a representation of the Chinese people's opinion. China has been

continuously holding a lot of American debt for many years. This shows China's emphasis on the U.S. debt, however, the question is, are they secure? American debt has become the China's most important financial security issue. Premier Wen's concern is a reminder for the U.S. Some Americans believe China is been restricted by holding so many American debts. They therefore do not pay enough attention to China's stance on certain issues and pressure China on issues like the exchange rate, the South China Sea dispute and Tibet. Therefore, China's Premier publicly spoke about his doubts concerning the U.S.' national credit. American media indicates that China's small moves in purchasing American debts will likely trigger a series of consequences. American debts are not just a financial issue, but a credit issue. The U.S.' national credit will be broken once the American national debt market collapses. China has emphasized that harmony between the two countries will benefit both and any fights will only bring harm. The security of China's American debt is once again reflected as a characteristic of the U.S.-China relationship."

14. U.S.-CHINA-JAPAN RELATIONS

"Is the axis China, U.S. and Japan feasible?"

The China Radio International sponsored newspaper World News Journal (Shijie Xinwenbao)(03/17): "Japanese media reported that the U.S. has sent a clear diplomatic signal that the U.S. does not need the axis of U.S.-Japan, but of U.S.-Japan-China. It has in fact announced the end of the U.S.-Japan axis era. The strength comparison of Japan and China has already changed. China has become the third largest economic country and the largest creditor country to the U.S. Since the financial crisis broke out, China's influence has further increased. The world's people have widely recognized the

BEIJING 00000689 002 OF 002

obvious improvement to China's comprehensive national strength. What's more, the U.S. is also adjusting its China policies. Secretary Clinton has emphasized that the U.S. is seeking a new type of partnership with newly-emerging countries and indicated that the U.S. and China should be pulled together in times of trouble. Furthermore, Japan's China policy is changing too. Japan should also promote China-Japan strategic partnership. A cooperative, win-win and equal partnership should be promoted for the trilateral relations of the U.S., Japan and China, but not 'two against one (U.S. and Japan against China). The relationship should not be referred to as the axis of the U.S., Japan and China because this name suggests that the axis will lead other countries."

PICCUTA